

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt of the Applicant's Amendment filed on 11/03/2008 is acknowledged. The amendment includes the amending of claims 1, 10, and 12-13, and the cancellation of claims 5-9, and 14-20.

Allowable Subject Matter

2 Claims 1-4, and 10-13 are allowed and renumbered as claims 1-8.

Examiner's Amendment

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Jerome G. Schaefer (Reg. No 50,800) on May 14, 2008.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 10, after "The method of", **delete** "claim 9", and **insert** "claim 1".

Reasons for Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's statement for reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to teach a combination of elements including selectively prioritizing documents to crawl based on a set of rules, fetching prioritized documents from the network; for each fetched document, determining whether the fetched document is relevant to any of the focus topics; and

Wherein the crawling is formed using a collaborative focus by analyzing documents for more than one focus topic of the focus topics at a time by implementing a foreman function for reading a plurality of contents of the resulting uniform resource locator strings, and sequentially passing the contents of the resulting uniform resource locator strings to a plurality of sequentially configured miners that each represent an individual focus topic, as recited in independent claim 1.

Specifically, the prior art generally mentions crawling documents via predetermined focus topics, but does not describe sequentially passing crawled documents to individually sequenced miners for further processing.

These features, together with the other limitations of the independent claims are novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record. The dependent claims 2-4, and 10-1 as being definite, enabled by the specification, and further limiting to the independent claim, are also allowable.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mahesh Dwivedi whose telephone number is (571) 272-2731. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8:20 am – 4:40 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Vo can be reached (571) 272-3642. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mahesh Dwivedi
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2168

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/Mahesh H Dwivedi/
Examiner, Art Unit 2168

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/Tim T. Vo/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2168